

## A New Eucnemid Beetle from New Caledonia

BY R. H. VAN ZWALUWENBURG  
Experiment Station, H.S.P.A., Honolulu, T. H.

(Presented at the meeting of October 13, 1941)

The eucnemid genus *Subprotelater* was established by Fleutiaux in 1916 (Philippine Journal of Science, xi, p. 387) for his *S. bakeri* from Luzon; later he described a second species, *S. guttatus* (Philippine Journal of Science, xv, p. 445, 1919) from Singapore. The species here described is the third known of this interesting genus. I take pleasure in dedicating the species to its discoverer, Dr. Francis X. Williams, who found it during his four-months' stay in New Caledonia in 1940.

### *Subprotelater williamsi* n. sp.

Elongate, subparallel (see fig. 1). Entirely black save for the ferruginous tarsi and the following four yellowish-white areas on each elytron: (1) the smallest of the four, a subcordate spot with its point directed backward, occupying intervals 3 to 5 inclusive, and all but attaining the basal margin of the wingcover; (2) an elongate marking on intervals 3 and 4, about three times as long as wide, its hind margin terminating at about the middle of the elytron; (3) a more or less round spot on intervals 7, 8 and 9, its anterior margin a little forward of the fore-margin of the elongate spot described above; and (4) a somewhat larger, more or less oval, area on intervals 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, at about the posterior two-thirds of the wingcover. The basal spot is tumid and there is no trace of striae crossing it; the other light-colored areas are flattened with the striae plainly indicated across their surface. Pubescence fine, barely visible; black over most of the upper surface of the body, pallid on the whitish areas, grayish on the underside of the body.

Head strongly channeled medianly from near the occiput, the groove lessening in depth as it approaches the epistoma; punctuation moderately fine and deep, somewhat more closely spaced anteriorly. Antennae, submoniliform, short, not attaining hind angles of the prothorax; 2nd segment short, about one-half length of 3rd; 3rd and 4th subequal; 4th to 10th gradually diminishing in length, with a fine, median carina along middle of outer face; 11th about one-half as long again as 10th.

Prothorax longer than wide; sides subparallel, narrowed forward from anterior one-fourth. Pronotum with frontal margin simple; shallowly impressed medianly, with two vague impressions on either side before middle; sides sharply declivous and basal declivity abrupt, disc depressed; hind angles directed straight backward, strongly unicarinate; punctuation fairly deep, coarse, uniform. Prosternum wide, somewhat tumid, punctuation about as on pronotum, but somewhat sparser; mucro straight, slightly depressed behind fore coxae. Pleuro-sternal sutures open along their posterior three-fourths, resulting in deep grooves in which the anterior tarsi are received. Antennal grooves marginal, deep, finely delimited along inner edge; failing to attain tips of hind prothoracic angles by about the length of the angles themselves.

Scutellum elongate, sharply declivous anteriorly, less so on apical one-half; convex; subrugosely punctate.

Elytra about twice as long as head and prothorax; sides subparallel, narrowed from about posterior one-third to the conjointly rounded apices; punctate-striate, intervals more or less convex, especially toward base, subrugosely punctate. Hind coxal plates untoothed on hind margin, widening laterad, with the lateral margin wider than the episternum. Legs short; tarsi and claws simple.

Length 4.5 mm.; width 1.25 mm.



*Subprotelater williamsi*, n. sp.  $\times 20$ .

Described from a type specimen of unknown sex, taken by Dr. Williams, August 28, 1940 on the outskirts of Noumea, New Caledonia, resting on bark of "niaouli" tree (*Melaleuca leucodendron* Linn.) at about 300 feet above sea-level. The type is deposited in the collection of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association Experiment Station in Honolulu.